



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

Auditor-Controller
Director of Health Services

At its meeting held November 25, 2003, the Board took the following action:

17

Supervisor Antonovich made the following statement:

“On November 18, 2003, an investigative report exposed problems with the Department of Health Services’ environmental health housing inspection process, failure of enforcement, and public access to inspection reports and risk ratings.

“In the past five years, 9,000 buildings have been inspected and assigned a numerical score and a risk rating. These rankings are not made available to the public, unlike the County’s restaurant grades which are required to be posted at the facility or available on the Internet.

“The report also revealed that the rating system does not accurately quantify the severity of health violations. Vermin infestation in a restaurant warrants immediate closure, while inspected buildings with deplorable conditions including vermin infestation and mold have often received satisfactory scores and risk ratings.”

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Antonovich, seconded by Supervisor Molina, unanimously carried, the Board took the following actions:

1. Instructed the Auditor-Controller to work with the Director of Health Services to conduct a full investigation into the Department of Health Services' housing inspection and enforcement program and rating procedures; and

(Continued on Page 2)

17 (Continued)

2. Instructed the Director of Health Services to evaluate a system that allows public access to inspection reports and posted letter grades; and report back to the Board within 14 days.

9112503-17

Copies distributed:

Each Supervisor

Chief Administrative Officer

County Counsel